

REMARKS

The Office Action dated September 8, 2005 and the Advisory Action dated October 12, 2005 have been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 2-4, 10, and 12 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Claims 2-29 are currently pending in the application. However, claims 16-29 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a restriction requirement. Therefore, claims 2-15 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Office Action indicated that claims 13-15 have been allowed. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that these claims are allowed.

Claims 1-3 and 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Onishi (U.S. Patent No. 5,434,863). Claims 1-4 and 6-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Haddock (U.S. Patent No. 6,104,700). Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onishi. Claim 5 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haddock. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the above rejections are rendered moot for the following reasons.

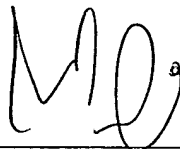
Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2-4, 10, and 12 have been amended to be dependent upon claim 13, which has been allowed as discussed above. The remaining claims 5-9, 11, and 14-15 are all directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 13. Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims 2-12 and 14-15 are dependent upon allowed claim 13. As such, Applicants submit that all of currently pending claims 2-15 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the rejections of the claims, as outlined above, are rendered moot.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of currently pending claims 2-15 are in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 2-15 be allowed, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Request for Continued Examination